

Community Mural Project:

1. Program Need and Description:

A. According to the 2005 Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), by the eighth grade only 37% of students in the Franklin Central Supervisory Union (which includes St. Albans Town and St. Albans City schools) agree with the following statement: “In my community, I feel like I matter to people.” Meanwhile, the Vermont Department of Public Safety reports that in Franklin County 48% of all destruction of property/ vandalism occurs in St. Albans and that Franklin County sees the 4th highest crime rate in Vermont for these offenses. It seems that in the course of life, feeling like you don’t matter to your community could easily translate into not caring for it in return. Youth investment in St. Albans is low and throughout their time here, this translates into a feeling of disconnect and sometimes crime.

Various factors play into a general misunderstanding on the part of many citizens of St. Albans about how they can participate in helping the community grow.

- “Relatively low education levels put Franklin County at a disadvantage...” according to the 2005 edition of the United Way Guide for Community Leaders in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties.
- Student academic achievement is low. The AHS 2004 Community Profile for Franklin Central Supervisory Union reports that students in this community fall below the Vermont average in all categories of meeting the standards in English/ Language arts, and Math.
- Civic responsibility is low. Although the percentage of eligible Vermonters who vote in general elections is almost at 50%, in our community only 43% vote.
- For many, daily life involves struggling with poverty. The 2004 Community Profile prepared by the Agency of Human Services (AHS) states that the rate of Franklin Central Supervisory Union’s children in families receiving food stamps is higher than the state average, the rate of adults receiving welfare is higher than the state average, the rate of employment is lower than the state average and the average annual wage for this community is less than the state average by more than \$3000.

According to the September 2005 *Advancing Vermont’s Creative Economy* report from the Vermont Council on Culture and Innovation, “...the loss of [Vermont’s] youth to other regions is an historic challenge.” Furthermore, the 2005 Franklin Central Supervisory union YRBS states that only six percent of students “spend three or more hours per week volunteering their time to help others make their community a better place to live.” Youth seem to put little investment in this community and then do not feel connected to it later in life.

B. In the Community Mural Project, students in grades five through eight establish a lasting connection with their community by creating artwork while working to promote beautification, and impact history. Each year, five of these annual programs provide an average of 92 students from St. Albans City School and St. Albans Town Educational center with standards-based educational opportunities. Each program is led by a certified art teacher and is designed to improve school-day student achievement. Students conduct research at the St. Albans Free Library, at the school libraries, online, at the St. Albans Historical Museum and/or in meetings with community representatives. In real-life community-based forums, students explore civics (including local governmental processes) and practice geometry, graphing, art, reading for comprehension, and persuasive writing. They also gain public recognition at dedication events. In these ways, while strengthening their education, they also learn how they can make a difference while coming to the realization that they do matter to the St. Albans Community. According to the Outcome Based Planning report from the VT State team for Children, Families and

Community Mural Project:

Individuals, “Young people who volunteer or contribute their time in some way are more likely to be involved in the community as an adult”. Students in the Community Mural Project will play an important role in advancing St. Albans City’s creative economy initiatives by collaborating on projects with the St. Albans For the Future (SAFF) Design Committee. In the coming years, community-based planning in St. Albans will focus on attempts to highlight the creative and cultural life of St. Albans. According to the September 2005 Advancing Vermont’s Creative Economy report from the Vermont Council on Culture and Innovation, “Creative and stimulating communities attract and retain young people. This is a key concern in Vermont...”

Program	When offered	Total hours offered	Total Student participants	Student: Teacher Ratio	Staffing
Summer Community Mural program	3 weeks during the Summer	52 hours	36	6 to 1	1 Certified Art Teacher per class and 1 para educator
Maple Festival Float Design program	9 weeks after school	22 hours	10	10 to 1	Certified Art Teacher
Murals for Downtown Windows	3 weeks after school	6 hours	10	10 to 1	Certified Art Teacher
School Murals Program	20 weeks after School	22 hours	30	10 to 1	Certified Art Teacher
St. Albans For the Future Programs	9 weeks after school	22 hours	12	6 to 1	1 Certified Art Teacher and 1 para educator

The Summer Community Mural Program: *One mural painted so far (on the People’s Trust Company Bank in Downtown St. Albans)*

- 12 students have spent 25 hours each in **Phase I: The Design Team**: Students research national, and Vermont Murals, then learn about local history and community needs. Finally up to three drafts of mural proposals are developed, letters supporting the initiative are written and the murals are proposed to the St. Albans City Design Review board for approval or denial.
- 12 students have spent 25 hours each in **Phase II: The Work Crew**: Students work as a team to scale the mural to the wall and paint the mural.
- 12 students have spent 2 hours on **Phase III: The Dedication**: Students conduct a ribbon cutting to dedicate the mural to the community on behalf of our youth.

The School Murals program: *Six murals painted at St. Albans Town Educational Center so far*

- Each grade in the school has it’s own group of classrooms called houses. Each house has a name. Students design murals based on the name of the house that they are painting one for. Students work together to develop a house mural design then scale it up and paint it. Once a year, student participants dedicate each mural to the house it was painted for at an evening art event, which celebrates Open Doors art programs.

The Murals for Downtown Windows program: *One mural painted so far (for the American Red Cross on the Banknorth Main Street window in St. Albans)*

- The American Red Cross was chosen by 10 students in this program as a community initiative worthy of recognition. Students were granted permission by Banknorth to paint a temporary window mural depicting the Red Cross. Students research the community initiative that they will be painting about and develop a mural based on this research. Students propose their mural design to the business where it will be painted and to the community organization that is the subject of the mural. They do this by writing and sending persuasive letters to the collaborating organizations. Once approved, students scale the mural up to the window, paint it and dedicate it.

Community Mural Project:

The Maple Festival Open Doors Float Design program: *First annual float currently being designed*

- Students develop a concept for a St. Albans Maple Festival parade float based on local history and Open Doors initiatives, then they design and construct it. The students gain recognition for their good work by being able to ride in the float during the St. Albans Maple Festival Parade.

The St. Albans For the Future programs *So far, eight trashcan liners have been painted, and preliminary discussions have begun around collaborating to plant flower bulbs and prune trees in Taylor Park*

- Students participate in hands-on work to complete SAFF initiatives that will revitalize and beautify downtown St. Albans. Also, for each program, students participate in a local history research component (students designed the trashcan liners to depict the railroad, based on their research. Taylor Park initiatives will incorporate researching the park's history, etc.)

2. Program Management:

A. Staff and Leadership

Staff	Qualifications	Responsibilities
Program Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Highly Qualified, Certified Art Teacher ▪ Employed at the school during the school-day preferred ▪ Experience as a professional artist preferred 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Design and propose Community Mural program session focus to the site leader ▪ Establish working contact with businesses and collaborators, ▪ Develop, design and lead all class activities, ▪ Manage students participants and conduct attendance, ▪ Meet with collaborators to discuss and gain approval for student proposals
Program Aides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trained to work with youth ▪ Hired by the school district (fingerprinted, etc) ▪ School-day paraeducator or aide preferred 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide student assistance when class size exceeds ten students ▪ Conduct 1:1 and small group student support when necessary ▪ Provide support to all teacher activities
Project Administration	Project Site Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review, discuss/ revise and approve programs ▪ Coordinate program purchasing ▪ Supervise program teachers and aides ▪ Oversee all programs, conduct program registration and site-based administration and evaluation of the programs, ▪ Serve as the primary contact for all businesses and collaborators ▪ Upon approval from the Project Director, Develop and coordinate dedication ceremonies and public relations
	Project Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate all evaluation processes ▪ Develop program timelines, objectives, targets and indicators of success ▪ Conduct reporting processes on the program ▪ Serve on the SAFF design committee to help identify and enhance collaborative efforts ▪ Coordinate shared vision work and keeping track of the intersection of collaborator needs and interests

Community Mural Project:

B. School-day links

Shared Standards of Education from Vermont's Framework

Vital Results include:

- Communications standards: 1.3, 1.5, 1.11, 1.15, 1.16, 1.19
- Reasoning and problem solving standards: 2.3, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 2.14
- Personal Development standards: 3.9, 3.10, 3.11, 3.13
- Civic/ Social responsibility standards: 4.1, 4.2, 4.6

Fields of Knowledge Include:

- Arts, Language and Literature: 5.1, 5.5, 5.12, 5.24, 5.28, 5.29
- History and Social Sciences, and Science: 6.4, 6.6, 6.11, 6.16, 6.18, 6.19
- Mathematics and Technology: 7.7, 7.8, 7.10

Learning Opportunities Include:

- Instructors: (A.2.1:A.2.2), Resources (A.3), Safe and Healthy Environment (A.5), Acquiring Knowledge and Skills (B.1), Variety of Instructor Roles (B.2), Multiple Student Roles (B.4), Interdisciplinary Connections (D.1), Relevance (D.2), Family and Community Collaboration (D.3), Best Practices in History and Social Sciences (E.2)

Shared Art Teacher:

The current St. Albans Town Educational Center Middle School Art teacher is the Community Mural Project instructor.

Collaboration around at-risk student recruitment and participation:

- Special educators and Teachers at the schools refer students who could best benefit from this program and conduct 1:1 conferences to recruit them.
- If student IEPs include Open Doors as a viable part of the plan and a 1:1 is required the Special education budget will pay for this service.

Shared Space

The Community Mural Project programs meet on-site at the schools where classroom space is shared with Open Doors.

Joint Planning

- Site leaders attend school action plan meetings and incorporate Open Doors academic and leadership initiatives into the school's action plan.
- The Open Doors Director Serves on the Franklin Central Supervisory Union Admin Team to ensure a shared vision of leadership and academic initiatives with the rest of the union.
- The Open Doors Director Serves on the SAFF Design Committee to ensure planning alignment.

Specific Commitments:

St. Albans Town Educational Center and St. Albans City School will

- Allow approved school murals to be painted in the schools
- Recognize student achievements in the program during the school day
- Ensure that new art teacher hires are questioned at the interview stage about how they could contribute to Open Doors
- Collaborate as advisors on program design and development

Community Mural Project:

3. Program Evaluation

A.

Program Goals:

Students in grades five through eight will

- 1. Recognize their importance to St. Albans while engaging in Civics Education**
- 2. Collaborate to create and dedicate artwork which impacts history**
- 3. Be inspired to learn across the curriculum**

Objectives	Measure	Numeric Objective
Empower students to recognize their contribution to St. Albans	Open Doors Survey: Did you participate in making St. Albans a better place, during this program?	75 % affirmative
	YRBS: In my community I feel like I matter to people.	.5 % increase in affirmative responses in the eighth grade.
	YRBS: I spend three or more hours per week volunteering my time to help others make my community a better place to live.	.5 % increase in affirmative responses in the eighth grade.
	Student Survey: People listened to my ideas and I feel like I made a difference during my program.	75% affirmative
Students will produce Vital Results in The Fields of Knowledge that they cover in their program (see Attachment #1)	Each program will keep track of each attendee and what vital results they achieve by the end of each program.	All Students Achieve 60% or more of the vital results covered in their program
Students will experience pride in learning	Student Survey: I feel good about what I learned in this program	90% affirmative
	Student Survey: I would like to learn more in a program like this.	90% affirmative
	Parent Survey: Did you notice your child talking about the accomplishments he/she made in this program?	80% affirmative

B: Program Efficacy

- To Date 98 students have participated in 12,152 total student hours in this program.
- Program contributions have been reported on the Channel 3 News once, and the St. Albans messenger twice.
- 97% of all program attendees surveyed have rated each Community Mural Project program either excellent or very good.

Community Mural Project:

- Programs have gained approval from Banknorth, People's Trust Company, St. Albans for the Future, the American Red Cross, The St. Albans Historical Museum and the City of St. Albans.
- Student maximum enrollment is exceeded, and students have to be turned away with every new enrollment process.
- An established program infrastructure ensures program success.

4. Budget

Program	Category	Budget	Narrative
Summer Community Mural program			
	Supplies	\$ 900.00	For exterior scaffolding, exterior paint, tools, primer, classroom supplies
	Teacher-	\$ 1,600.00	Four weeks (one prep week three teaching weeks) at \$20 per hour twenty hours per week
	Aide	\$ 225.00	Three weeks of work at \$15 per hour for five hours per day
	Fica	\$ 139.61	7.65%
	Retirement	\$ 102.20	5.60%
	Purchased Services	\$ 360.00	thirty-six students at \$10 each for museum trips
	Transportation	\$ 200.00	\$25 per hour times eight hours for research and mural location travel
	Teacher travel	\$ 17.80	\$0.445 per mile
	Subtotal	\$ 3,544.61	
Maple Festival Float Design program			
	Supplies	\$ 500.00	Paint, tools, lumber, classroom supplies, hardware
	Teacher	\$ 720.00	Twenty-two hours teaching, six hours at the event, eight hours prep at \$20 per hour
	Fica	\$ 55.08	7.65%
	Retirement	\$ 40.32	5.60%
	Subtotal	\$ 1,315.40	
Murals for Downtown Windows			
	Supplies	\$ 200.00	Scaffolding,glass paint, tools, classroom supplies
	Teacher	\$ 180.00	Six hours teaching and three hours of prep
	Fica	\$ 29.07	7.65%
	Retirement	\$ 10.08	5.60%
	Subtotal	\$ 419.15	
School Murals Program			
	Supplies	\$ 600.00	Scaffolding, paint, tools, primer, classroom supplies
	Teacher	\$ 600.00	twenty two hours teaching eight hours of prep time at \$20 per hour
	Fica	\$ 45.90	7.65%
	Retirement	\$ 33.60	5.60%
	Purchased Services	\$ 300.00	Thirty students at \$10 each for museum trips
	Transportation	\$ 150.00	\$25 per hour times six hours in field trips
	Subtotal	\$ 1,729.50	

Community Mural Project:

St. Albans For the Future Programs			
	Supplies	\$ 500.00	Paint, plants & bulbs, tools, hardware
	Teacher	\$ 640.00	Twenty-two hours teaching, ten hours prep at \$20 per hour
	Aide	\$ 330.00	Twenty-two hours at \$15 per hour
	Fica	\$ 74.21	7.65%
	Retirement	\$ 54.32	5.60%
	Subtotal	\$ 1,598.53	
Administration			
	Salary- Site leaders	\$ 450.00	One hour per week * thirty weeks * \$15 per hour
	Salary- Project Director	\$ 432.00	Two hours per month * twelve months * \$18 per hour
	Fica	\$ 67.47	7.65%
	Retirement	\$ 49.39	5.60%
	Communications	\$ 393.95	program registration forms and mailings
	Subtotal	\$ 1,392.82	
Total Budget		\$10,000.00	

The following pages were submitted as a separate attachment:

Community Mural Project:

Vital Results:

Communications standards:

- 1.3 Reading for Comprehension,
- 1.5 Writing Dimensions
- 1.11 Persuasive Writing
- 1.15 Speaking
- 1.16 Artistic Dimensions
- 1.19 Information Technology research

Reasoning and problem solving standards:

- 2.3 Problem solving-Type of Problems
- 2.7 Approach- information
- 2.8, Taking risks
- 2.9 Perservering
- 2.14 Planning/organizing

Personal Development standards:

- 3.9 Sustainability
- 3.10 Relationships- Teamwork
- 3.11 Interactions
- 3.13 Roles and Responsibilities

Civic/ Social responsibility standards:

- 4.1 Service
- 4.2 Democratic Processes
- 4.6 Change-Understanding Place

Fields of Knowledge:

Arts, Language and Literature:

- 5.1 Times and cultures
- 5.5 Point of View
- 5.12 Literate Community
- 5.24 Artistic Problem Solving
- 5.28 Artistic Proficiency
- 5.29 Visual Arts

History and Social Sciences, and Science:

- 6.4 Historical Connections
- 6.6 Being a Historian
- 6.11 Institutional Access
- 6.16 Impact of Economic Systems
- 6.18 Nature of Conflict
- 6.19 Identity and Interdependence

Mathematics and Technology:

- 7.7 Geometric and Measurement Concepts

Community Mural Project:

- 7.8 Function and Algebra concepts
7.10 Math Problem Solving: Applications

Learning Opportunities Include:

- A.2.1:A.2.2 Instructors:
A.3 Resources
A.5 Save and Healthy Environment
B.1 Acquiring Knowledge and Skills
B.2 Variety of Instructor Roles
B.4 Multiple Student Roles
D.1 Interdisciplinary Connections
D.2 Relevance
D.3 Family and Community Collaboration
E.3 Best Practices in History and Social Sciences

PROMISING PRACTICE ADDENDUM:

An addendum was requested that addressed “enhancement”:

Program enhancements and expansions

2005	2006
We offered 45 weeks of programs for a total of 126 hours of class time. *	We will offer 60 weeks of programs for a total of 141 hours of class time.**
98 students spent a total of 2636 student hours were spent in these programs.*	160 students will spend a total of 3510 hours in programs.**
Community Mural Project after school programs were offered at St. Albans Town Educational Center Only.	Some Community Mural Project after school programs (Float Design, Murals for Downtown Windows and a St. Albans For the Future Program) will be offered at St. Albans City School and some (School Murals, a St. Albans For the Future Program and Float Design) Will be offered at St. Albans Town Educational Center.
Community Mural Project instructor prep time was focused only on program logistics.	Community Mural Project instructor prep time will be inclusive of constructing evaluation procedures in line with standards- based civics education as well as program logistics.
St. Albans For the Future Community Mural Project programs were only focused on designing and painting trashcan liners.	St. Albans for the Future Community Mural Project programs will expand to park beautification initiatives.
The student-centered design team, work crew and dedication program structure was established for the Summer program.	All Mural Project programs (including after school programs) will adopt the design team, work crew, and dedication program structure.

*Community Mural Project Year 1							
<i>Session</i>	<i>School</i>	<i># Classes</i>	<i>Class type</i>	<i># Weeks</i>	<i>Total hours Offered</i>	<i>Total Students</i>	<i>Total Student Hours</i>
Spring	SATEC	2	SAFF	9	22	12	264
Spring	SATEC	1	School Murals	6	7	10	70
Spring	SATEC	1	School murals	6	6	10	60

Community Mural Project:

Summer	District	5	Community Mural	3	52	36	1872
Fall	SATEC	1	School Murals	9	9	10	90
Winter	SATEC	1	Window mural	3	6	10	60
Winter	SATEC	2	Maple festival	9	22	10	220
TOTALS		13		45	126	98	2636

**Community Mural Project Year 2 With Award Enhancements							
Session	School	# Classes	Class type	# Weeks	Total hours Offered	Total Students	Total Student Hours
Summer	District	3	Community Mural	3	36	40	1440
Fall	SATEC	2	School Murals	9	22.5	24	540
Fall	City	1	Window Mural	6	7.5	12	90
Winter session	City	1	Float	9	11.25	12	135
Winter session	SATEC	2	Float & window mural	9	22.5	24	540
Spring	City	1	Window Mural	6	7.5	12	90
Spring	City	1	SAFF	9	11.25	12	135
Spring	SATEC	2	SAFF	9	22.5	24	540
TOTALS		13		60	141	160	3510

Budget Amendment

Program	Category	Budget	Narrative
Summer Community Mural program			
District-wide	Supplies	\$ 600.00	For exterior scaffolding, exterior paint, tools, primer, classroom supplies
	Teacher-	\$ 1,440.00	60h teaching, 12 h prep at \$20
	Aide	\$ 900.00	Three weeks of work at \$15 per hour for four H/day
	Face	\$ 179.01	7.65%
	Retirement	\$ 131.04	5.60%
	Purchased Services	\$ 288.00	Thirty-six students at \$8 each for museum trips
	Transportation	\$ 140.00	\$35/ hour for 4 hours: research and mural site travel
	TOTAL	\$ 3,678.05	
Maple Festival Float Design program			
City School	Teacher	\$ 335.00	11.25 hours teaching 3h prep, 2.5h at the event
	Face	\$	7.65%

Community Mural Project:

		25.63	
		\$	
	Retirement	18.76	5.60%
		\$	
	Supplies	200.00	Paint, tools, lumber, classroom supplies, hardware
		\$	
	Subtotal	579.39	
SATEC		\$	
	Teacher	580.00	22.5h teaching, 2.5 hrs at the event, 4 hours prep
		\$	
	Face	44.37	7.65%
		\$	
	Retirement	32.48	5.60%
		\$	
	Supplies	200.00	Paint, tools, lumber, classroom supplies, hardware
	Subtotal	\$ 856.85	
		\$	
	TOTAL	1,436.24	
Murals for Downtown Windows			
City School		\$	
	Supplies	200.00	Scaffolding, glass paint, tools, classroom supplies
		\$	
	Teacher	360.00	15 hours teaching and 3 hours of prep
		\$	
	Face	27.54	7.65%
		\$	
	Retirement	20.16	5.60%
		\$	
	TOTAL	607.70	
School Murals Program			
SATEC		\$	
	Supplies	200.00	Scaffolding, paint, tools, primer, classroom supplies
		\$	
	Teacher	530.00	22.5 hours teaching 4 hours of prep time at \$20/H
		\$	
	Face	40.55	7.65%
		\$	
	Retirement	29.68	5.60%
		\$	
	Purchased Services	300.00	Thirty students at \$10 each for museum trips
		\$	
	Transportation	150.00	\$25 per hour times six hours in field trips
		\$	
	TOTAL	1,729.50	
St. Albans For the Future Programs			
City School		\$	
	Supplies	100.00	Paint, plants & bulbs, tools, hardware
		\$	
	Teacher	285.00	11.25 hours teaching, 3h prep
		\$	
	Face	21.80	7.65%
		\$	
	Retirement	15.96	5.60%

Community Mural Project:

	<i>Subtotal</i>	\$ 422.76	
SATEC	Supplies	\$ 150.00	Paint, plants & bulbs, tools, hardware
	Teacher	\$ 530.00	22.5 hours teaching, 4h prep
	Face	\$ 40.55	7.65%
	Retirement	\$ 29.68	5.60%
	<i>Subtotal</i>	\$ 750.23	
	TOTAL	\$ 1,172.99	
Administration			
City School	Salary-Site leader	\$ 225.00	1/2 hour per week * thirty weeks* \$15 per hour
	Face	\$ 17.21	7.65%
	Retirement	\$ 12.60	5.60%
	Communications	\$ 196.98	Program registration forms and mailings
	<i>Subtotal</i>	\$ 451.79	
SATEC	Salary- Site leaders	\$ 225.00	1/2 hour per week * thirty weeks* \$15 per hour
	Face	\$ 17.21	
	Retirement	\$ 12.60	
	Communications	\$ 179.68	Program registration forms and mailings
	<i>Subtotal</i>	\$ 434.49	
SU office	Salary- Project Director	\$ 432.00	Two hours per month * twelve months * \$18 per hour
	Face	\$ 33.05	7.65%
	Retirement	\$ 24.19	5.60%
	<i>Subtotal</i>	\$ 489.24	
	TOTAL	\$ 1,375.52	
TOTAL AWARD REQUEST		\$10,000.00	